

that Yurek et al. does not disclose the limitation of Claim 23 as amended, namely, that the outer coating of a conductive material comprises a metal having a melting point higher than that of the solidified metallic material used to fill voids in the oxide superconductor. This limitation finds support in the present specification, for example, at page 25, line 4, to page 26, line 17, and in Figure 3. By virtue of this feature, Applicant submits, better adhesion between the conductive material and the oxide superconductor is obtained within the wire, as is shown in the specification at page 20, lines 6-17, and page 26, lines 7-12.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yurek et al. in view of Den et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,512,538). Applicant submits that Den et al. only discloses certain superconductor materials, and does not describe any superconducting wire. In particular, Den et al. does not show superconducting wire having a metal dispersed in vacancies in a continuous oxide superconductor, or an outer coating comprising a metal having a melting point higher than a solidified metallic material used to fill voids in an oxide superconductor, as Applicant claims. Therefore, Den et al. does not remedy the deficiencies of Yurek et al., as discussed above with reference to Claims 2, 3, 22, and 23.

Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the claim amendments and arguments presented above. Accordingly, favorable consideration of the claims and passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence regarding this application should be directed to our below-listed address.

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